New York Tribune.

First to Last—the Truth: News — Editorials — Advertisements.

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Lincoln.

Time and history, which expose things as they were, in so doing bring them into a perfect harmony with things as they are—or dismiss them forever. The past lives for us exactly in proportion to its spiritual alliance with the present. "As dead as Pharaoh," runs the familiar phrase. *That* past is gone indeed. Pharaoh was a man like unto ourselves, and our civilization is in debt to his, yet is he lost in the Egyptian night. The poet clearly tells us why, in his piercing allusion to "the hand that mocked them and the heart that fed." Man cannot live by bread alone. Without ideas he starves. Lincoln, who fought to free a race, to-day performs a service for his countrymen which they need now as greatly as they needed it in the sixties. He stirs their souls, he enkindles their imaginations.

What is freedom worth, without feeling? Hero worship that is rooted in gratitude alone increases no man's stature, and it easily degenerates into the arid formalism of habit. The true hero is neither the benefactor, merely, nor even the embodiment of a specific ideal. He is, rather, the man whose memory works a strange magic, taking us out of ourselves we know not how, breaking up the still waters of pettiness, enlarging our minds and our hearts as the clean winds quicken the pulse and make us at one with a golden universe.

The biographers—some of them—have tried to bring Lincoln closer to us by harping on his weaknesses, and they have failed. Others have tried to transform him into a demigod, and they, too, have failed. The people of the United States have understood him through love, and their image of him is the right one. Is it filial love or fraternal? Who shall say? It is, at all events, a clairvoyant thing, which no other great American has ever developed in the national consciousness, not even Washington. And it partakes of all that is finest, all that is truest, all that is simplest in humanity. We talk of Lincoln's measurable traits—of his kindness and his patience, his humor and his resolution, his eloquence and his political genius. We weigh in our scales the work that he did, the man that he was. But still the secret of his power eludes us. All we know is that the spirit of man is in some mysterious way touched, nay, thrilled, by the spirit of Lincoln as it is touched and thrilled only by the gifts of God.

Thus are we moved by the nobler voices in poetry and music; thus are we moved by a shining deed, and, again, by some sublime moment in the visible world. As these things belong to us all, so Lincoln belongs to us all, the hero and the inspiration of democracy; and when we say this we are thinking not of a form of government, but of the eternal forces of sympathy and faith which make men brothers. Do they wait for a war to bring them into play? They are the breath of our existence, day by day, in all times. And it is because their appeal is Lincoln's that he is not only our hero but our friend. How, on this anniversary of his birth, does he set us thinking, and, by the same token, enrich us with a high emotion!

With him in our thoughts we soar to the stars, and in the same instant our hearts are turned with a deeper humility to the little human tendernesses which more than all else make life worth living. Life is larger and more splendid because we are the inheritors of his renown. We face it with a fuller courage and a more generous ambition because he lived and died. And with this strength that he means to us, with this spur, there comes also a profound happiness. No man can be sorrowful, thinking on Lincoln, that man of sorrows. The very greatness and glory of him must make us glad. His name is as the sound of a trumpet, his fame like the shadow of a great rock in a thirsty land. In him we are brought back to the peace and certitude and joy of elemental things, for—

> He is made one with Nature: . . .
> He is a presence to be felt and known
> In darkness and in light, from herb and stone,
> Spreading itself where'er that Power may move
> Which has withdrawn his being to its own;
> Which wields the world with never-wearied love
> Sustains it from beneath and kindles it above.

New York City Needs Economic Independence.

While there can be no particular objection to the proposed legislative investigation of this city's government, if the state has the time and money to spend on it, it is hard to see just what benefits would result. The machinery of government is not perfect and the administration is not perfect—that goes without saying. But the administration on the whole is satisfactory just at present, and there is careful and systematic study being given, both by department heads and a duly constituted committee of the Board of Estimate, to a charter revision which shall perfect the municipal machinery.

It would be much more to the point if the Legislature gave its approval to the measure to be presented pursuant to a resolution of the Board of Estimate and Apportionment, granting to that body power to fix the salaries of all employes paid out of the city treasury, except elected officials, and to determine the number of such employes. In other words, the Legislature could do more for New York City by granting to its officials power to spend its own money, instead of having that money spent by mandatory legislative enactment, than could be done by any legislative investigation with a view to economy. There is no real home rule for this city, and there can be none so long as the Legislature fixes and changes salaries of county officials, school teachers, court officials and the like. The constantly increasing expense of county administration is one of the chief factors in the budget enlargement in recent years. The increased salaries of school teachers under the "equal pay" law have cost the city millions of dollars. The hands of the appropriating authorities here are tied.

So, if the announcement of the intention to investigate the city administration is equivalent to a declaration of a belief that it is guilty of maladministration or gross waste, it must be said that the state authorities do not come into court with clean hands. The state itself is in none too brilliant a financial condition to be able to twit the City of New York, which pays more than half the taxes of the state, with "bankruptcy." If the proposed investigation is merely to ascertain the condition of the city's finances and the reason for its mounting budget, the Legislature will inevitably find a trail leading directly to Albany.

Schoolhouses for Polling Places.

The Board of Education has given its approval to the bill providing that schoolhouses be used for registration and polling places. It is a sensible measure and should be adopted. Other cities have tried this scheme with success. It could not interfere with the proper use of the schools to use them for polling places, and the city would save, the People's Institute estimates, about $125,000 each election.

It may or may not be desirable to have this act of voting, the expression of citizenship, take place in the dignified atmosphere of the schools. There is a certain sentimentality in that suggestion which is bound to appeal to some persons. But the merit of the proposal does not rest on that appeal alone. The saving to be made in using city property for this additional purpose, which is not incompatible with its present use, is argument enough for the bill.

Mr. Kipling Speaks of Drums.

It was before a distinguished London audience at the Mansion House that Mr. Rudyard Kipling recently discussed the value of bands to soldiers. The new armies of Lord Kitchener are mostly without music, possessing not even drums and fifes, to say nothing of bands. Accordingly, a movement is now under way to obtain bands by popular subscription. And Mr. Kipling is naturally spokesman.

As it happened, Mr. Kipling did not mention the great, familiar example of what drums can do. Yet we will wager that not many of his listeners failed to think of it. We mean, of course, "The Drums of the Fore and Aft," wherein two drummer boys saved a broken regiment from something worse than death. Mr. Kipling stuck to other instances at the Mansion House. A few drums and fifes meant at least five extra miles in a route march, he asserted, quite apart from the fact that they could swing a battalion back to quarters happy and composed in mind, no matter how wet or tired its body might be. The roll and flourishing of drums and fifes around a barracks was as warming and cheering as the sight of a fire in a room. And for illustration:

> You may remember a beautiful poem by Sir Henry Newbolt, in which he describes how a squadron of weary big dragoons were led to a renewed effort by the strains of a penny whistle and a child's drum taken from a toyshop in a wrecked French town. I remember in India in a cholera camp, where the men were suffering very badly, the band of the 10th Lincolns started a regimental sing-song and went on with that queer, defiant tune, "The Lincolnshire Poacher." It was their regimental march, that the men had heard a thousand times. There was nothing in it—nothing except all England, all the East Coast, all the fun and daring and horseplay of young men bucketing about big pastures in the moonlight. But as it was given very softly at that bad time in that terrible camp of death, it was the one thing in the world that could have restored, as it did restore, shaken men back to their pride, humor and self-control.

In short, the soul of a battalion was most often found in its band—supplying a common means of uttering moods and thoughts which a "tongue-tied brood," in Mr. Kipling's phrase, could ill express otherwise. True of soldiers and of many others, it may be added, who march better through life for the melody and rhythm about them.

The Railroads Beginning to Get Justice.

The Interstate Commerce Commission's new and saner attitude toward the railroads was emphasized yesterday in the so-called "inter-mountain rates" decision. The transcontinental roads have to face the problem of all-water route competition through the Panama Canal, and they have been anxious to get official support for the practice of making lower through rates to the Pacific Coast from points east of the Mississippi River without having to lower correspondingly rates to interior mountain points.

The concessions they asked for some years ago were refused by the Interstate Commerce Commission on the ground that they were in conflict with the "long and short haul" provisions of the interstate commerce act. The commission created a zone system through which rates were to be equalized. The Commerce Court suspended that action, but on appeal to the Supreme Court the commission's power to create zones was confirmed. The Supreme Court held, however, that the commission, in interpreting the "long and short haul" clause, could exercise discretion in making allowance for the effects on through transportation rates of competition by way of the Panama route.

In yesterday's order the commission took the Supreme Court's hint and made fairly liberal concessions in the way of permitting discriminations in through rates. These discriminations cannot but benefit the country as a whole. The East and the Middle West will get cheaper rail transportation to the Pacific, the manufacturers and producers of the Mississippi Valley will be relieved of a handicap against them and in favor of the Atlantic Coast created by the opening of the Panama Canal, and the railroads will be enabled to retain a good deal of through transcontinental business which otherwise they would lose. The inter-mountain states will be only negatively injured. They could not get any benefit out of a retention of the higher through rates to the coast, although everybody else might suffer from them.

The rational consideration now given to the railroads is one of the brightest promises of industrial readjustment. If the carriers can reestablish their credit and earning power the problem of winning back prosperity will be amazingly simplified.

The Conning Tower

To a Steam Riveter.

Rat-a-tat-tattle! at eight of the clock,
Rat-a-tat! until five,
Careless of me and my versified knock,
Heedless of others that live on the block.
Reckless of curses that I've
Sent you the second you bade me to wake,
Putting my nerves on a jangular ache!

Rat-a-tat-tat! is the song that you sing,
Rat-a-tat-tat-a-tat-tat!
Careless of critical arrow or sling,
Monstrous, inhuman and terrible Thing—
Why should I say you are that?
Deaf to the cry of a soul in distress,
You are the type of Efficient Success.

The editor of "Harper's Weekly" explains why he has not expressed an opinion on the shipping bill. "It is because," he says, "we have not been able to accumulate enough knowledge; a feeble reason, no doubt, but the only one we have." It is not a feeble reason; it is a strong reason.

But it is the very lack of knowledge that sets many an opinion afloat—especially editorial opinion. This department tries to keep from expressing opinions on matters it is uncommonly ignorant about. . . . But sometimes it doesn't occur to us until next morning, when somebody asks what was meant by this or that, how broad and embracing our ignorance of the night before was.

Among the things we do know, however, is that The Grand Tour will begin some time before March 1. And that we shall do a daily travelogue. And that we shall give the San Diego Exposition the double-o, too.

Preparations for the Grand Tour.

B180KS|V|W|| EMPORIA KAS FEB 11
CONNING TOWER N Y
WIRE WHAT TRAIN YOU ARRIVE ON. WALT MASON SENDS GREETINGS BANKS WILL CLOSE SCHOOL CLOSE BUSINESS SUSPEND
WILLIAM ALLEN WHITE

THE DIARY OF OUR OWN SAMUEL PEPYS.

February 10—Up, and did on my new suit, and to a glover's for a pair of gloves of buckskin, and to the station to meet my wife, and a brave show I made, too. She in good health, which I was glad of. I did take her to the inn, which she was highly pleased over, and there is no querulousness in her at all. For a walk with her in the afternoon, and in the evening to my office, where merrily at my scrivening till ten o'clock.

11—Up by times, and for a walk through the town, and passed by the poor men and women waiting in the bundle line, out in the cold. Did I own the building adjacent to where they stand, I should let the shivering folk enter it and wait there, forasmuch as the ground floor is vacant and the men had to wait until one o'clock. To J. Burgess the dentist's, who kept me more than 2 hours, but pained me not at all. To the office where till finished with my stint.

Read The Gotham Weekly Gazette's editorial "Suffrage," next Sunday.—Adv't.

THE MISCHIEVOUS MAKE-UP MAN.
[From the Bridgeport Telegram.]
NOTICE.

As my wife, May Blood Graves, has left my bed and board I will not be responsible for any bills contracted by her from this date, Feb. 9, 1915.
r9uo LESLIE B. GRAVES.

The average man thinks he knows a woman when he asks her to face the parson with him, but a few weeks later he may discover his mistake.

Edison, 68, Feels Like He's 25.—Sun headline.
Looks like the influence of Boss Clarke had left the Sun office with him.

To the Author of "Nepenthe."

Ickle Tweetums, kid, you're there!
Ickle T., I'd like to know you.
That there pome about the sunset
Had me going for a bit.
Ickle Tweetums, ah! how fair!
Would you like to have me blow you
To a half a dozen unset
Diamonds? 'Cause you've made some hit.

Ickle Tweetums, little fay,
How'd it be if we should team up?
You and I are quite some poets
And we'd never hit the zinc.
Would'st contrib with me for aye?
Say the word and I'll get steam up.
Certainly and sure I know it's
Sudden, but—well, whaddye think?

BARON IRELAND.

Our athaletic young man, who, by the way, is inTRESted in the Kliest aleniation suit, has a job driving one of the New York Sun wagons whose red posters announce a "heart rendering document" for Sunday.

ABRAHAM LINCOLN.
BY OUR OWN MARY C. BURKE.*

His birthplace was a cabin rude,
In Kentucky's wild and lonely wood.
Alone he learned to read and write;
He studied hard both day and night.

He never cheated man or babe
'Twas thus he got the name of Honest Abe.
This strong courageous frontiersman
Our nation's people did command.

Toward noble deeds his mind was bent.
And so when he was the President
He freed the poor and wretched slave.
Indeed, the country's honor he did save.

Dear boys and girls should emulate
The hero of our country great.
To him our hats we gladly doff.
Especially for this day off.

*Anne.

The year's mixtmet prize goes to the gentleman quoted by Forrest Crissey in the satevepost. "That cleared the ground of all snags," he says, "and never left a sore."

COMMERCIAL CANDOR.

At Ninth avenue and 23rd street: "Chapped hands quickly removed by our lotion."

In White Plains: " . . . House Dresses. We guarantee the material to be color-fast. We know they won't last long."

When the hotels stop charging 10c for a telephone call, they may discontinue the practice of asking 2c for a 1c newspaper.

TO "THE TIMES."

I'm not one to pull the rough stuff,
But I simply have to speak:
Why not set your anti-suff stuff
In Antique?

Suggested motto for the treasured Times:

Deviation is vexation,
Progression is as bad;
The feminist fuss confuses us,
And Suffrage drives us mad.

F. P. A.

1809—FEBRUARY 12TH—1915.

THE PEOPLE'S COLUMN

An Open Forum for Public Debate.

GERMANY IN THE CIVIL WAR

Her Whole Government and People Were with the Union, It Is Asserted.

To the Editor of The Tribune.

Sir: In the People's Column of to-day's issue of The Tribune, "M. B." attempts to oblige "One Anxious to Know" with a fair recital of English and German neutrality toward the United States. How he can assume to be giving the facts when he does not know Germany's position in the Civil War is something I cannot understand. However, while England declared neutrality, she was heart and soul with the Rebel cause, and would have been very happy if the Union had been torn asunder.

What was Germany's position in that war? If "M. B." would consult John Sherman's "Recollections of Forty Years in the House, Senate and Cabinet," he will find that Mr. Sherman stated that throughout the whole of Germany (including Prussia) the government and people were heartily in sympathy with the Union cause. In addition, in the Putnam edition of the "Works of Carl Schurz" there is a statement to the effect that when the United States was hard pressed for funds with which to carry on the war it was Prussia that loaned it the money for that purpose.

The foregoing is a brief statement of the position of Germany in that war. What a different position from that of England, who was hoping for the success of the Rebel cause, as well as giving it aid and comfort!

M. M. MILLER.
New York, Feb. 10, 1915.

LINCOLN: A REMINISCENCE

How Fence Rails Played a Part in Cooper Union.

To the Editor of The Tribune.

Sir: A few days after Abraham Lincoln was nominated at Chicago a huge ratification meeting was held at Cooper Union in this city. The enthusiastic audience who thronged the hall used every device—throat, torch and band—to give expression to their feelings. The platform was crowded with Republican leaders, among whom I was fortunate in having a seat.

An orator began to express the universal purpose to choose Lincoln as President. Suddenly began a disturbance in the hall at the rear of the platform. This gradually increased, attracting every eye. Soon through the door emerged an immense fence rail borne in and held erect by General Stewart L. Woodford.

When quiet was secured he told the audience that after the Chicago convention he went with the Illinois delegates to the early home of Lincoln and brought thence this fence rail, which, he was assured, was one of the many cut by Mr. Lincoln in his youth. The effect upon the audience may be imagined!

At a later day Carl Schurz made marvellous use of those fence rails in that same hall. For two hours his eloquence held the magnificent audience spellbound. They were ready for a flash of humor. Pausing for a moment, he said: "Birnam wood shall never come to Dunsinane, but all the fence rails in the State of Illinois are marching across the country to elect Abraham Lincoln!" The audience were convulsed. Successive waves of laughter swept back and forth across the faces of the immense company, as the sunshine bursting through the clouds sweeps across the fields of ripened grain. JAMES OTIS DENNISTON.
New York, Feb. 10, 1915.

THE WOMAN SUFFRAGE "CRISIS"

A Few Among Many Appreciations of The Tribune's Stand.

To the Editor of The Tribune.

Sir: I wish to thank you warmly for the splendid editorial on woman suffrage in The Tribune of yesterday morning.

When "The Times" came out with its definite policy of opposition to the desperately difficult campaign the women of this state are engaged in I stopped my subscription of twenty years' standing, and made up my mind that I should support only those papers which would help us in this cause. You will find many men and women of the same conviction. We recognize what a tremendous ally The Tribune can be, and are very grateful for your support.

GERTRUDE FOSTER BROWN,
President, New York State Woman Suffrage Association.
New York, Feb. 10, 1915.

To the Editor of The Tribune.

Sir: Many thanks for your answer to the "New York Times" editorial. I am a constant reader of both papers, and, needless to say, I do not agree with everything published in either paper. The "Times" editorial astounded me!

I had felt that the "Times" argument, on whichever side it championed, would be well worth consideration. Instead, in many words it begged the question. It reminded me of the much-used story of the man who said he did not believe in woman suffrage for "reasons too humorous to mention."

Personally, I am conservative enough to wish women had not been forced into the wage-earning battle. Since conditions are as they are in this twentieth century, I earnestly hope that women are given the vote. If they are not, then let fair minded men insist that the qualification for man suffrage be something more than age and citizenship.

I was much interested during the campaign last fall to hear men say they would attend no political rallies and listen to no speakers save those sponsored by their own adopted party. I hope no party knowingly adopted them. One man, who has plenty of time for "movies" and dances, voted on the strength of a one-man interview held Election morning. Some may say these men are exceptions. I sincerely hope they do not prove the rule.

Keep up the good work of making men and women think. A WOMAN.
Gloversville, N. Y., Feb. 9, 1915.

To the Editor of The Tribune.

Sir: Permit me to congratulate you on your masterly editorial handling of "The New York Times" in your issue of February 9. It is fortunate for the newspaper readers of New York that there are some editorial writers who can think in modern terms on a great question. JAMES L. LAIDLAW,
President, Men's League for Woman Suffrage.
New York, Feb. 10, 1915.

To the Editor of The Tribune.

Sir: I want to send you a word of appreciation for your editorial of to-day, "The Woman Suffrage Crisis in 'The Times.'" It is a splendid argument, splendidly presented. Contrasted with the Sunday editorial of "The Times" it is like daylight beside darkness. Not only the New York women, but women from every state, are indebted to you.

ANTOINETTE FUNK,
Vice-Chairman, National Congressional Committee.
Washington, Feb. 9, 1915.

To the Editor of The Tribune.

Sir: Permit me to thank you for your splendid editorial in to-day's Tribune, entitled "The Woman Suffrage Crisis in 'The Times.'" As you most truly say, "The Times" has no more perception of the real issue than a mediæval monk.

I have been a reader of "The Times" for twenty-five years, but it is so antediluvian on the suffrage question that I am forced to give up reading it. Hurrah for The New York Tribune, with its broad outlook on this most important subject! DAVID S. HIBBENS.
Paterson, N. J., Feb. 9, 1915.

AN ANTI-SUFFRAGE REPLY

Mrs. Annie Riley Hale Upholds the Eighteenth Century View.

To the Editor of The Tribune.

Sir: Your editorial criticism this morning of the "New York Times's" archaic sentiments in regard to woman suffrage seems to indicate that you rest its claims upon woman's larger employment in public industry, since you say "The Times" "has missed utterly what has happened to women and their work in the last decades, and argues against suffrage in the words of 1750." Are we to understand from this that The Tribune is advocating wholesale employment of women outside the home, in pursuit of the suffrage ignis fatuus—"economic independence for all"?

If so, permit me to quote for you the words of a noted suffragist, Ellen Key, whose opinion on this head is amply sustained by the findings of factory inspectors and trade commissions, both in this country and abroad. Says Mme. Key: "Competition between the sexes has produced—as regards manual labor—for men and women those lower conditions of labor which are the usual result of overcrowding the labor market—namely, low wages, long hours and uncertainty of employment. . . . The consequence of the outside employment of wives has been sterility, high infant mortality and the physical and psychical degeneration of the surviving children; a debased domestic life, with its consequences — discomfort, drunkenness and crime. . . . Among the middle classes, competition between the sexes has directly reduced man's chances of marriage and indirectly diminished the desire of both sexes to contract matrimony. . . . Woman's competition with man in the field of labor has, in fact, occasioned a profound ill feeling between the sexes."

And now, if I get the gist of your editorial, to this industrial competition between the sexes you would add political competition, euphemistically described as "woman's contribution to the political wisdom of the state." This beautiful sentiment—brand "new" enough to satisfy the newest progressive—should make you very popular with the suffragette, since it tallies with her large conception of her efficiency with the ballot. But, like most of the beautiful suffrage theories, it doesn't tally with fact and experience. "Voting by his side"—as you so sweetly phrase it—throughout all the different social strata, while doubling the electorate and the cost of the electoral machinery, cannot possibly affect the net result of the balloting; and voting against him in any of these strata simply nullifies both the man's and the woman's vote, and the result is the same as if neither had voted; that family, or that group of families, could announce, "Voters here are paired," and save themselves the trouble of trying to get "representation" through the ballot.

You are rather severe upon the mediæval dulness of the "Times's" editor, so "amazingly ignorant" of the "real living force behind the present day desire of American women to do their full share by the state," etc.; but where did you get such a "sure thing" line on this, Mr. Editor? From the suffragettes? But they are a very small fraction of American women.

Why should you plead the cause of a handful of agitators against the great majority of your countrywomen, in a government whose cornerstone is the will of the majority? If you think they are right, that is your privilege, of course, but it is only your opinion and that of the suffragettes. There are others. After all, much may still be said for that eighteenth century view of the matter of which you are so scornful. It is just as true now as then that woman is fundamental in creation and fundamental in early education, and this fact not only gives her greater opportunity for acquiring supremacy, but makes her primarily more responsible than man for whatever is, whether good or evil. As to "getting the woman viewpoint into government," I don't know of any way of keeping it out!

It is just as true now as in the days of the spinning wheel and the stage coach that the sex relation should be complementary, and neither duplicative nor competitive; it is just as true now as it was 1,000 years ago, that only by doing the work of the home can woman escape competition with man in industry, and only by confining her efforts to home government can she avoid duplicating or nullifying his efforts in state government. It is not a question of equality, still less of individual whim or preference, but one of social expediency, of diversified pursuits based on a difference of sex function, and arranging the work of the world upon the basis of sex harmony instead of sex war.

ANNIE RILEY HALE.
New York, Feb. 9, 1915.

ABRAHAM LINCOLN.

Lincoln, beneath thy spirit's cope I come
Like a shy child, that in the silent wood,
Lifting her voice in hymns, half understood,
Sudden is 'ware of Vastness, and is dumb.
Didst thou not fitly rate the empty hum
Of words, below the monumental dead?
Oh, yet, ere mellow silence fills my reed,
It must sound forth the call: Arise! Become!
I charge you by his still uncounted sum,
By his unvalued toils for this our state,
I charge you by his solemn martyrdom,
Arise, become a land reconsecrate!
Freedom may fall without the warning drum—
To Her, once more, by him be dedicate!

CHARLOTTE HOLMES CRAWFORD.